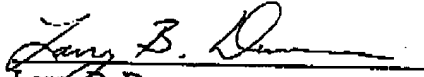


Preliminary Amendment Dated: 8/2/2004  
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**REMARKS**

Claim 7 has been amended to correct an antecedent basis problem; claims 19-48 are new. Fees for the new claims are included with this amendment. If there are any fees necessitated by the foregoing communication, please charge such fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-0902, referencing our Docket No. (72255/00021).

TUCKER, ELLIS &amp; WEST, LLP

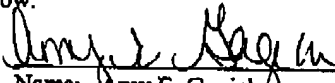
  
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**CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8**

I hereby certify that this correspondence (along with any paper referenced as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited on the below date with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 223143-1450, or being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO, on the date indicated below.

Date: 8/2/04

  
Name: Amy E. Gagich

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